

hereby respectfully submit the following amendment and response.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 4, please delete the paragraph found on lines 14-28 with the following paragraph, which is marked to show the differences between the paragraphs:

To address the need for a method and an apparatus eliminating the protocol headers and/or trailers included in a transmission of a data packet, thereby increasing the throughput of a communication channel and the capacity of a communication system, a communication system distributes the functions of a socket abstraction layer of the prior art between a socket abstraction layer included in ~~[[an]]~~ a client communication device, such as a mobile subscriber, and a socket abstraction layer in ~~[[a]]~~ an agent communication device, such as an infrastructure serving the mobile subscriber. By so distributing the functions of the socket abstraction layer, headers may be reduced in signaling between the client communication device and the corresponding agent communication device as part of call set ups and tear downs and in the exchange of payloads between the client and agent communication devices. By reducing the required headers, overhead is reduced and bandwidth is conserved in communications between the client and agent communication devices. Such as in over-the-air communications between a mobile subscriber and an infrastructure serving the mobile subscriber, with resulting increases in system capacity and improvement in system efficiency.

On page 14, please replace the last paragraph found on lines 24-31 with the following paragraph, which is marked to show the differences between the paragraphs:

The references to MS 102 herein as the client communication device and to Access Gateway 108, or alternatively infrastructure 112, as the agent communication device is merely meant to assist the reader in understanding the principles of the present invention and not intended to limit the invention in any way. Furthermore, although communication system 100 preferably is a wireless communication system, those of ordinary skill in the art realize that communication system 100 need not be a wireless

communication system and may be a communication system employing any link layer technology without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

On page 15, please replace the first paragraph found on lines 1-15 with the following paragraph, which is marked to show the differences between the paragraphs:

Protocol stack 500 includes an application layer 502, or a user space, and lower layers 504, or a kernel space. Application layer 502 includes one or more applications 504 and an API 508 such as a socket abstraction client. API 508 implements the same functions as found in the prior art API 208 to provide a common interface to applications 504 and 204. Unlike the prior art, the API 504 does not implement the lower interface to the transport protocols as found in API 208. Instead the API 504 implements a lower interface to an intermediate network layer such as wireless network stack ~~[[516]]~~ 510. Kernel space 504 includes a wireless network stack 510 further comprising a packet data convergence protocol (PDCP) layer 512, a radio link control (RLC) layer 514, and a radio layer 516, such as a GSM or a CDMA radio layer. Alternatively, wireless network stack 510 may comprise a Radio Link Protocol (RLP) layer in place of PDCP layer 512 and RLC layer 514. PDCP layer 512 manages the set of packet data protocol (PDP) context, which basically correspond to the set of unique flows or socket pairs. Unlike the prior art, kernel space 504 does not include the TCP/IP suite of protocols as found in TCP/UDP 210, IP 212, link driver 214, and physical layer 216.

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:**